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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,876	11/27/2002	Gregory Scot Corman	RD27912	5277

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EXAMINER

WHITE, DWAYNE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3745

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/065,876

Applicant(s)

CORMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Dwayne J White

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 10-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8,9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's amendment dated 14 June 2004 has been carefully considered. Claims 1-20. The specification has been amended to correct informalities noted in the first Office action. The amendments to claims 8 and 9 have also been noted with appreciation.

Applicant's arguments concerning the rejection of claims 1, 11 and 19 have been considered and are deemed persuasive. The rejection has been withdrawn. Applicant's arguments concerning the rejection of claims 8 and 9 in view of Hartel and Halila have been considered but are deemed non-persuasive. In regards to Halila, Applicant generally states that Halila does not disclose a plurality of cavities formed into a surface of one of the interfacing components. The Examiner respectfully disagrees with this statement. Referring to Figure 6, there appears to be at least two cavities 74 formed on the surface of one of the interfacing components. In regards to Hartel, Applicant generally states the reference does not teach a plurality of protuberances formed on the surface of a first component or a plurality of cavities formed into a surface of a second component, different from the first component. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. It is the position of the Examiner that the ring holder 4 does have a plurality protuberances formed on the surface of the first component and a plurality of cavities 14 formed into a surface of a second component.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Halila (5,291,732). Halila discloses a structure for attaching together a first component 36 and a second component 44 comprising a plurality of protuberances 68 formed on a surface of a first component and a plurality of corresponding cavities 74 formed into a surface of the second component opposite the surface of the first component. Each of the protuberances slidably engages one of the cavities such that the second component is capable of floating in independent movement relative to the first component.

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hartel (4,307,993). Hartel discloses a structure for attaching together a first component 3 and a second component 2 comprising a plurality of protuberances formed on a surface 4 of a first component and a plurality of corresponding cavities 14 formed into a surface of the second component opposite the surface of the first component. Each of the protuberances slidably engages one of the cavities such that the second component is capable of floating in independent movement relative to the first component.

CONCLUSION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 and 10-20 are allowed.

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Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Tate (4,613,280) discloses a structure wherein the sealing rings are disposed such that they can move freely to open or close cooling holes between two components.

Contact Information

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

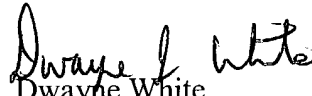
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dwayne J White whose telephone number is (703) 306-3464.

The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am to 5 pm T-F and alternate Mondays.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look can be reached on (703) 308-1044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Dwayne White
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3745

DJW


EDWARD K. LOOK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700
9/2/04